

Air

25X1 Chief [] MECA
25X1 Attn: []
Chief, Communications Division

MECA - Current Home Office Planning

1. In view of the over-increasing world tension and in an endeavor to insure the availability of rapid, reliable and secure communications facilities at those locations in the Middle East where they may be desirable, certain steps may be required to augment existing MECA facilities. Favorable consideration is now being given to proposals calling for the possible establishment of radio facilities at the following locations in the form of new MECA Net stations, []

[] emergency facilities or combination of several of the above types of communications:

- A. [] Emergency [] signal plan, MECA Net procedures, agent equipment. Operator on indefinite TDY until further notice. 25X1
- B. [] Same as for [] 25X1
- C. [] Emergency signal plan, MECA Net procedures, [] equipment. Operator to be assigned and held in standby status as [] to activate communications facilities when conditions indicate it is required. 25X1 25X1
- D. [] Possible increase of station complement to provide 24-hour communications service [] MECA Net Control Station [] [] 5 additional men may be required. (This will be the subject of separate correspondence.) 25X1 25X1 25X1
- E. [] Open new MECA [] 25X1
- F. [] Re-open the MECA [] upon [] 25X1
- G. [] Re-open the MECA [] 25X1

25X1

25X1

H.

Open a new MECA station upon

25X1

I.

25X1

2. Certain of the above proposals may have already been approved and implemented on cabled authority prior to the receipt of this dispatch. The remainder, however, are subject to considerable Home Office study and discussion before any concrete action will take place. The purpose of this dispatch is only to acquaint you with the current Home Office planning in regard to MECA in order that you may be forewarned and may properly evaluate MECA's capabilities in terms of equipments and personnel. The entire subject of emergency communications planning throughout the world is currently a major topic of Home Office discussion and review. When definite decisions have been reached with regard to types of signal plans to be used, areas to be served, and the communications networks necessary to cover these areas, you will be advised in order that you may accurately arrange the details of emergency communications planning as applicable to MECA.

25X1

3. As stated previously, [] is currently being prepared^{25X1} with equipment and signal plans in order that it might serve as a backup station, for emergency purposes, for []^{25X1} No personnel are to be provided [] at this time. Should^{25X1} conditions obtain which make evacuation of various portions of the Middle East advisable, personnel will be provided [] Evacuated operators from within the MECA area will augment [] wherever possible. It is anticipated that [] will^{25X1} serve as an interim backup station only until such time as a major base station can be erected at some selected location in the Western Mediterranean area.^{25X1}

25X1

4. In addition to the proposed major radio-teletype trunk lines to be established between [] it is highly desirable that a direct circuit be established between [] and the Home Office. [] is currently being surveyed^{25X1} with a view toward a large-scale expansion of its facilities. One of the major reasons for this expansion is the anticipated high-volume of traffic to be handled between MECA and interested U.S. Government Agencies.

5. As can be seen from the above, MECA is fast outgrowing its infancy and is soon to become a major communications activity, surpassing any other communications network in the area, items of physical size, traffic volume and efficiency of service. Accordingly, some revisions of MECA may be appropriate. Your interpretation of the personnel and equipment requirements 25X1 to meet such an augmented program in MECA, as outlined above, will be of great assistance to the Home Office in its efforts to provide proper support for MECA. The fact that [redacted] is currently on home leave places the burden of implementing any approved expansion program directly on your shoulders. He will, however, be of great value here in coordinating Field and Home Office viewpoints.

6. You are requested to carefully study the proposals listed above and endeavor to determine what additional personnel and/or equipment may be required in order that immediate action may be initiated to insure their procurement and delivery to MECA.

[redacted] 25X1

ORIG: OPS/HMS/WOE